NCCDD INITIATIVE 2017



Inclusive Advocacy Leadership Development (IALD)

Year 1

NCCDD State Plan Objectives Addressed

- Objective A: As mandated by the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act), increase support to statewide self-advocacy organization(s) through leadership development & coalition participation
- Objective B: Increase individual, family, public and system knowledge and engagement to provide system advocacy for the financial security and community living opportunities of individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD)
- Objective C: Increase professional development to improve expectations and supports for individuals with I/DD

Initiative Goals and Timeline

The NCCDD's Inclusive Advocacy Leadership Development (IALD) planning initiative spans October 1, 2016 – December 31, 2017. Initiative goals include:

- Educate advocates for I/DD
- Support the establishment of a NC Self Advocate (SA) organization
- Advance I/DD-SA leaders and their opportunities to lead
- Support I/DD-SA participation in cross-disability/culturally diverse coalitions
- Recruit, prepare and mobilize professionals of the I/DD field and community leaders to advance I/DD-SA opportunities

Description of Activities

- The NCCDD IALD initiative is about leadership development and has two primary features: Advocacy
 Organizing and Leadership Training Curriculum Development. Both features are mandates in the DD Act for
 Councils on Developmental Disabilities and are part of the NCCDD Five-Year Plan.
- The DD Act also expects collaboration among the NC DD Network that includes the NCCDD, Disability Rights NC (DRNC) and the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD).

Achievements and Outcomes to Date

- Following a rigorous interview process, two co-coordinators were engaged as temporary employees of the NCCDD.
- Activity I: The NCCDD, DRNC, and the CIDD maintain shared commitment and balanced support of this IALD activity. Twelve (12) self-advocate members of the NC DD Network boards engaged in the "Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope" (PATH) strategic planning process for the advancement of self-advocacy organizing in NC. The NC Empowerment Network (NCEN) is the chosen moniker of the self-advocate members.
 - The NCEN has taken steps to reactivate and transform the Association of Self-Advocates of NC (ASANC). With support from the single active member of ASANC, the NCEN self-advocates became members of ASANC to legally proceed through the steps of transitioning the ASANC 501c3 to the NCEN. The NCEN Mission Statement: Advocating for inclusive and equal lives for North Carolinians with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the state. The NCEN Vision Statement: Our vision is for people with disabilities to be influential leaders for social change. NCEN Catch Phrase: Get Your Lead On!
- Activity II: NC Partners in Policymaking® and NC Advancing Strong Leadership in Developmental Disabilities graduates, mentors and staff made up a 9-member panel to discuss strengths and other features of the two training programs. The panel also discussed plausibility of combining elements of Advancing Strong Leadership and Partners in Policymaking.
 - The primary themes from the panel discussion included: growth and development; network-building/network
 activism; diversity within the context of disabilities; and program structure features.
 - Members of the panel and select other Advancing Strong Leadership and Partners in Policymaking graduates, staff and mentors make up a steering committee developing a structure and materials for surveying other graduates, staff and mentors to inform a potential future inclusive leadership training and development processes.
 - The steering committee is also developing schedule options for survey implementation.

Expected System Change as Result of Initiative

• The goal of the IALD initiative is to strengthen the knowledge and skills of self-advocates with intellectual and developmental disabilities and individuals concerned with I/DD to effectively influence others regarding the capabilities of people with I/DD and to effectively influence systems change that positively impacts people with I/DD.